

AN INTEGRATED ETHERNET AND PDH/SDH/SONET COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

ABSTRACT: An integrated communication system for communicating Ethernet and PDH/SDH/SONET data using time division multiplexing techniques is provided. The integrated communication system time division multiplexes PDH/SDH/SONET data with Ethernet data, and transmits and receives the combined data stream using Ethernet-based communication technology. The integrated communication system is cost effective for providing both Ethernet and PDH/SDH/SONET communication services, since separate transmission facilities are not required. In addition, the time division multiplexing method is more cost effective than the wave division multiplexing (WDM) method since WDM equipment is not required. The integrated communication system can act as a standalone system or be incorporated into other network systems.